REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the drawings in relation to claims 6 and 7. In response, Applicants respectfully contend that said objection to the drawings is moot, in light of the cancellation of claim 6 and the amendment of claim 7.

The Examiner rejected claims 6, 7, and 28-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. In response, Applicants respectfully contend that said rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is moot, in light of the cancellation of claim 6 and the amendment of claim 7.

The Examiner rejected claims 2-7, 9-13 and 27-35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, Applicants respectfully contend that said rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is moot, in light of the amendments herein.

In the next section, Applicants present support for newly added claim language in the present amendment. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact Examiner's representative if the Examiner considers any of the newly added claim language to be problematic.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to examine the claims in light of the prior art.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact Examiner's representative if the Examiner is of the view that the claims are not in condition for allowance but are close to being in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request the opportunity to work closely with the Examiner to expedite the prosecution of the present patent application, inasmuch as the present patent application has had a long file history and has been examined numerous times previously.

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Support for Newly Added Claim Language

Claim 2 recites an electric structure comprising a first circuit line and a second circuit line. A newly added feature of claim 2 is the "first circuit line including a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion of the first circuit line consists of a first conductive pad" and the "second circuit line including a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion of the second circuit line consists of a second conductive pad". Claim 2 together with the preceding features is embodied in FIG. 9 and accompanying description in the specification. In FIG. 9, the first circuit line 100 has "medium" thickness and has a second portion 102 that consists of a first conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of first circuit line 100 as shown). The second circuit line 104 has "thick" thickness and a second portion 106 that consists of a second conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of second circuit line 104 as shown).

Claim 3 recites an electric structure comprising a first circuit line, a second circuit line, and a third circuit line. A newly added feature of claim 3 is the "first circuit line including a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion of the first circuit line consists of a first conductive pad" and the "second circuit line including a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion of the second circuit line consists of a second conductive pad".

Claim 3 is embodied in FIG. 9 and accompanying description in the specification. In FIG. 9, the first, second, and third circuit lines of claim 3 are represented by reference numerals 96, 92, and 94, respectively. Claim 3 is also embodied in FIG. 10 and accompanying description in the specification. In FIG. 10, the first, second, and third circuit lines of claim 3 are represented by reference numerals 210, 230, and 220, respectively.

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Claim 7 has respective circuit lines on two surfaces of a substrate, and is embodied in both FIG. 11 and FIG. 12 (and accompanying description in the specification). In FIG. 11, the first circuit line 310 has a second portion 309 that consists of a first conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of first circuit line 310 as shown), and the second circuit line 320 has a second portion 332 that consists of a second conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of second circuit line 320 as shown), and the PTH 308 is uncovered at both ends. In FIG. 12, the first circuit line 410 has a second portion 409 that consists of a first conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of first circuit line 410 as shown), and the second circuit line 420 has a second portion 432 that consists of a second conductive pad and a first portion (remainder of second circuit line 420 as shown), and the PTH 408 is uncovered at both ends.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Date: 11/11/2003

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